

July 26, 1990

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**THREE NEW EXHIBITIONS OPEN IN PRINTS & DRAWINGS GALLERIES AT THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART**

August 7 - October 28, 1990

Three exhibitions, with works selected from the permanent collection, open in the Prints and Drawings Galleries at The Cleveland Museum of Art on August 7 and run through October 28, 1990.

**Drawings: Discoveries in the Collection**, an exhibition organized by Michael Miller, Assistant Curator in the Department of Prints and Drawings, consists of more than 70 little-known and rarely shown drawings ranging in date from 1500 to 1900. Some are anonymous and others were previously misattributed, but they are all of high quality. Giovanni Battista Franco's Studies of Skeletons, which date to 16th-century Italy, are fragments of anatomical drawings which have been reconstructed into a single composition. Many of the drawings in the exhibition were gifts to the Cleveland Museum from the collections of Daniel A. Huebsch and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb.

**Design and Decoration: Ornament Prints** presents decorative motifs that were popular in the 15th through 17th centuries. As wealth spread from court and church to the merchant class, particularly in 16th-century Italy, the demand for decorated objects increased. Local artists needed patterns to follow, and printmakers obliged with designs that could be adapted to furniture, jewelry, embroidery, lace,

metal work, and marquetry, among other uses. Nearly 70 examples--engravings, etchings, and woodcuts--are in the exhibition, which was organized by Prints and Drawings Associate Curator Jane Glaubinger, with help from Curatorial Assistant Sabine Kretzschmar. From Israhel Van Meckenem's Ornament with Flower and Eight Wild Folk to Lucas Kilian's New ABC Booklet (Neues ABC Bächlein), the exhibition covers the wide variety of motifs that were popular--many of them freely combined from ancient wall decorations, bronzes, and architecture, as well as from styles in the Near East.

**Robert Motherwell's A la Pintura** is an illuminated edition of Spanish author Rafael Alberti's poem which celebrates the painter's tools--palette, pigment, and brush. Motherwell spent four years on the project, beginning in 1968. He carefully designed A la Pintura's 24 unbound pages (each 25 1/2 x 38 inches), using images in aquatint and lift-ground etching and taking great care in the choice and placement of type. The handmade book was produced at Universal Limited Art Editions (ULAE), a New York printmaking workshop begun by Tatyana Grosman, who convinced Motherwell to take on such a project. A la Pintura was a gift to the Cleveland Museum from Mr. and Mrs. Gordon D. Meals and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Meals in memory of Moselle T. Meals, who owned the set and was an active member and former president of The Print Club of Cleveland. Jane Glaubinger, Associate Curator of Prints and Drawings, organized the exhibition.

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For additional information or photographs, please contact the Public Information Office, The Cleveland Museum of Art, 11150 East Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44106; 216/421-7340.